

second current I<sub>2</sub> to the electronic device 2. Accordingly, the energy storage device 1 provides the electronic device 2 with sufficient electricity.

[0051] At time T<sub>5</sub>, the load current required by the electronic device 2 starts to fall (for example, the load current required by the electronic device 2 falls to 0.8 A). Meanwhile, the adapter 11 can provide the electronic device 2 alone with sufficient electricity. The analog level of the feedback signal EAO rises and the charger module 12 adjusts the duty cycle of the first PWM signal PWM1 and the duty cycle of the second PWM signal PWM2 according to the feedback signal EAO and the ramp signal RAMP so that the first turn-on time of the first switch Q1 increases, while the second turn-on time of the second switch Q2 decreases. As a result, the energy storage unit 13 reduces the second current I<sub>2</sub> supplied to the charger module 12.

[0052] At time T<sub>6</sub>, the input current I<sub>CIC</sub> provided by the adapter 11 starts to fall due to load current required by the electronic device 2 decreases so that the input current I<sub>CIC</sub> falls below the maximum safe current I<sub>max</sub>. It should be noted that, meanwhile, the duty cycle adjustment unit 121 does not allow the negative current. Therefore, the zero-crossing current threshold I<sub>ZC</sub> is adjusted to zero again.

[0053] Moreover, at time T<sub>7</sub> when the adapter 11 charges the electronic device 2, the adapter 11 also charges the energy storage unit 13 at the same time to compensate for the energy loss of the energy storage unit 13 in the boost mode.

[0054] If the input current I<sub>CIC</sub> provided by the adapter 11 rises again to be higher than or equal to the maximum safe current I<sub>max</sub> of the adapter 11, the charger module 12 enters the boost mode again so that the energy storage unit 13 assists the adapter 11 to provide the electronic device 2 with sufficient energy.

[0055] As stated above, the charger module according to one embodiment of the present disclosure can operate in the buck mode and the boost mode to achieve the buck and the boost function of the conventional energy storage device. In other words, compared to the conventional energy storage device, the energy storage device of the present disclosure has advantages of lower manufacturing cost, easier circuit design and less circuit area.

[0056] Moreover, the energy storage device according to one embodiment of the present disclosure exhibits faster response and more stable. The reason is that it takes much time for the processor in the conventional energy storage device to analyze the present conditions and correspondingly output the control signal to control the switching between the buck circuit and the boost circuit. Therefore, the conventional energy storage device fails to respond to the request of the electronic device in real time, which leads to longer response time.

[0057] Moreover, the energy storage device 1 according to one embodiment of the present disclosure adjusts the energy provided by the energy storage unit 13 and the input current I<sub>CIC</sub> provided by the adapter 11 according to the present requirement of the electronic device 2. Furthermore, when the load current required by the electronic device 2 is too high, the energy storage unit 13 starts to provide the electronic device 2 with electricity and the adapter 11 adjusts the input current I<sub>CIC</sub> to be equal to the maximum safe current I<sub>max</sub>. Therefore, the energy storage device of the present disclosure can overcome the problems of the conventional energy storage device due to unstoppable switching between the operation modes.

[0058] Generally, the inductor current I<sub>L</sub> will flow from the energy storage unit 13 to the second switch Q2 if the duty cycle adjustment unit 121 allows the negative current in buck mode. The negative current flows into the ground terminal through the second switch Q2 to cause the poor charging efficiency of the energy storage unit 13. Moreover, the negative current may also flow into the adapter 11 to damage the adapter 11. However, in the present embodiment, the negative current is only allowed when the input current I<sub>CIC</sub> is higher than or equal to the maximum safe current I<sub>max</sub>. Moreover, the charger module 12 controls the duty cycle of the first switch Q1 and the duty cycle of the second switch Q2 to let the energy storage unit 13 assist in providing the electronic device 2 with energy.

[0059] Then, referring to FIG. 4, FIG. 4 is a flowchart of a control method of an energy storage device according to one embodiment of the present disclosure. The control method is used with the energy storage device 1. In Step S401, the adapter receives electricity from the utility and starts to provide an input current I<sub>CIC</sub>. In Step S402, the detection unit detects the input current I<sub>CIC</sub> provided by the adapter and determines whether the input current I<sub>CIC</sub> is higher than or equal to a maximum safe current I<sub>MAX</sub> of the adapter. When the input current I<sub>CIC</sub> provided by the adapter is higher than or equal to the maximum safe current I<sub>MAX</sub>, the method proceeds with Step S404. Otherwise, when the input current I<sub>CIC</sub> provided by the adapter is lower than the maximum safe current I<sub>MAX</sub>, the method proceeds with Step S403.

[0060] In Step S403, the charger module operates in a buck mode. The adapter supplies the input current to the electronic device to charge the electronic device. Moreover, the adapter supplies a first current to an energy storage unit to charge the energy storage unit. In other words, the adapter provides the electronic device and the energy storage unit with energy at the same time. The inner current of the energy storage device is expressed as: I<sub>CIC</sub>=I<sub>SYS</sub>+I<sub>1</sub>. Then, the method repeats Step S402 to continue detecting the change in the input current.

[0061] In Step S404, the charger module allows the zero-crossing current threshold I<sub>ZC</sub> to be lower than zero. In other words, the charger module allows the negative current. The duty cycle adjustment unit in the charger module adjusts the duty cycle of the first switch and the duty cycle of the second switch so that the energy storage unit supplies a second current to the charger module. The second current is reverse to the first current. Then, the charger module provides the electronic device with sufficient energy according to the second current. Accordingly, the charger module provides the electronic device with sufficient energy without damaging the adapter. The inner current of the energy storage device is expressed as: I<sub>CIC</sub>+I<sub>2</sub>=I<sub>SYS</sub>. Then, the method repeats Step S402 to continue detecting the change in the input current.

[0062] As stated above, the present disclosure provides an energy storage device and a control method thereof, using a control charger module to achieve assisting the adapter to charge the electronic device. Therefore, the energy storage device according to the present disclosure does not require a buck circuit and a boost circuit as in the conventional energy storage device. Compared to the conventional energy storage device operating based on a control signal to control the switching between the buck circuit and the boost circuit, the energy storage device according to the present disclosure